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Examiner: Gary K. Graham
Group Art Unit: 3723

Remarks/Arguments

In the Office Action mailed October 30, 2008, claims 14-19, 26, and 33 have been allowed, claims 6-12, 20, 21, 25, 27, 32 and 34 have been rejected and claim 3-5 and 28-31 are objected to. The Examiner's allowance of claims 14-19, 26, and 33 and allowability of claims 3-5 and 28-31 are appreciated. By the present Amendment, rejected claim 25 has been cancelled and allowable claims 3-5 have been rewritten in independent form. In addition, rejected claims 6-12, 20 and 21 have been amended depend from claim 5. Further, rejected claim 27 has been cancelled and the allowable claims 28-30 have been rewritten in independent form. Rejected claims 32 and 34 have been amended to depend from allowable claims 5 and 30, respectively.

In the Office Action, claims 6-12, 20, 21, 25, 27, 32 and 34 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over the Sloan U.S. Patent No. 4,971,471. This rejection is respectfully traversed. However, in order to advance the prosecution of the application, the rejected independent claims have been cancelled, the allowable claims have been rewritten in independent form and the rejected dependent claims have been amended to depend from allowable claims.

In view of the foregoing, it is submitted that all claims in the application are in condition for allowance and notification of allowance of the application is respectively requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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